who stopped the work of laying cable near Champahat (Dihasahi); and

(e) by when, Government would provide underground/overhead cable link to Panchapalli and open an exchange to facilitate communication network?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) Panchapalli village (Erasama Block) of Jagatsinghpur district is 8 Kms. from the nearest exchange Dihasahi. It is not technically feasible to provide connection on land line. VPTs in the areas have been provided on Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) from the nearest Base station at Paradeep. Occasional faults observed in the WLL system are being attended within the reasonable time.

(d) and (e) As Panchapalli village is covered by a WLL system, a separate telephone exchange is not justified as per BSNL norms. The telepohne connections would be provided from the nearest WLL base station after expansion.

Opening of Mukhya Dak Ghar

2228. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have introduced a new scheme for opening of "Mukhya Dak Ghar" at all the Talukas places across the country;

(b) if so, the name of the Taluka in Jajpur district of Orissa, which do not have a Mukhya Dak Ghar; and

(c) the steps taken to open Mukhya Dak Ghar at all the Talukas in Jajpur District of Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SANJAY PASWAN): (a) No, Sir. Mukhya Dak Ghars have been set up by 01.04.2002 at Headquarters of Districts not having any Head

Post Office and which have Sub-Post Offices having three hands or more. This concept has been extended to select, similar Post Offices located in other stations which have large volume of counter transaction, especially in Saving Banks.

(b) Jajpur, Binjarpur, Dharmasala and Darpana Tehsils in Jajpur District do not currently have a Mukhya Dak Ghar. Jajpur Taluka has an H.O. at Headquarters. Hence, no MDG is proposed to be opened there.

(c) Proposals for setting up for Dak Ghars at Binjharpur and Dharmasala have been taken up for consideration. Dhanmadal, the Headquarters of Darpana, does not have a Sub-Post Office with three hands or more. Therefore, it is not possible to provide that Taluka with a Mukhya Dak Ghar.

Job creation by Communication and I.T. Industry

2229. SHRI DINA NATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employment opportunities/jobs created by Communication and I.T. industry during the last four years;

(b) the number of I.T. professionals who got employed abroad during the last four years; and

(c) Government's estimates about generation of jobs for trained personnel in I.T. sector during the Tenth Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SANJAY PASWAN): (a) About 5.2 lakh jobs have been created by IT Industry as per NASSCOM estimated and 14,916 jobs have been filled by the Department of Telecommunications during the last four years.

(b) No data is available. However, as per NASSCOM estimates about 50,000 professionals are working overseas on project requirements.